

RESOLUTION # 1010

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE HIGHWOOD GENERATING STATION

WHEREAS, Southern Montana Electric and the City of Great Falls have proposed building a 250 megawatt coal-fired plant eight miles east of Great Falls; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Benton serves as the head of the 149 mile section of the Missouri River designated as a Wild and Scenic River and the river is arguably Fort Benton's most important and valuable resource; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 1.7 billion gallons of water per year will come from the Missouri River for the plant's operation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Benton believes the Highwood Generating Station will create a negative impact on the quality of life in Fort Benton with over three million tons of carbon dioxide, forty pounds of mercury and tons of other pollutants to be released by the project annually; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Benton would prefer a clean renewable energy option such as wind or solar power; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Benton will not receive any positive economic impact from the plant such as increased jobs, access to the electricity generated or additional tax dollars, and, in fact, could potentially see a reduction in property values;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Fort Benton, County of Chouteau, State of Montana **opposes** the **Highwood Generating Station**.

BY ROLL CALL VOTE:

5 AYE

0 NAY

1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING

1 Abstention

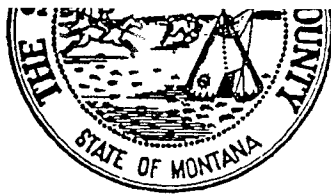
DONE AND DATED this 19th day of November, 2007.

Richard D. Morris
MAYOR

ATTEST

Wendy G. Hays
Clerk/Treasurer





P.O. Box 459
FORT BENTON, MONTANA 59442
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EXHIBIT 6
DATE 2-18-09
HB 4831566

COMMISSIONERS

Harvey W. Worrall, Chairman
Kenneth R. Evans
James O'Hara

CLERK

JoAnn L. Johnson

REGULAR MEETINGS:

*Every Monday and the first and third
Tuesday of the month following the
first Monday.*

June 11, 2007

Lance Olson
Joe Briggs
Peggy Beltrone

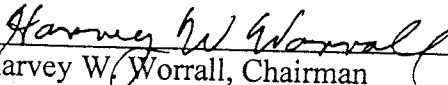
Honorable Commissioners,

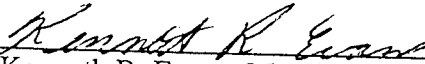
We have very serious concerns about the proposed Highwood Generation station, the intention of SME is to build a coal fired electric generation just across the Chouteau County line in Cascade County. In a June 11, 2007 meeting of the Chouteau County Planning board, after discussion, there was a unanimous vote for the Chouteau County Commissioners to "write a strongly worded letter to the Cascade County Commissioners stating the unanimous decision of the Chouteau County Planning Boards opposition to the continuation of the planning and commencement of building the proposed Highwood coal fired energy plant on the border between Chouteau County and Cascade County. We encourage you to not to rezone the property to industrial and leave this prime farm land as it is. Our primary concerns are these:

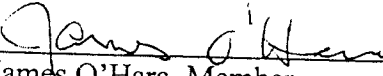
- 1) Here in Chouteau County we are in an area that will be directly impacted from the fallout of the proposed plant, being downwind of the prevailing wind pattern. We are very concerned there will be adverse health effects for our constituents, most health care professionals in North Central Montana share our concerns and are outspoken against the plant.
- 2) The proposed plant will use approximately four million gallons of water every day, potentially having an adverse effect on Chouteau County Missouri River Users. (Irrigation and recreation). Due to a prolonged drought, and lack of snowfall in the mountains, the Missouri River has been historically low over the past three decades.
- 3) The proposed plant could have a negative impact on real estate prices in Chouteau County, especially close to the plant. This plant could have a negative impact on our tax base. Currently there is a migration of people to North Central Montana, that are buying farms and ranches at a premium. These people are moving here because of our pristine environment and our sparse population. These potential residents of Chouteau County would not like to live in the shadow of a coal fired electrical generating plant. (The perception is that coal is a dirty fuel), this perception could very well devalue property values in Chouteau and Cascade County.

We realize electrical generation is an issue that carries some urgency, but we encourage SME to explore alternative ways to obtain energy. Montana is famous for our clean air and water. We urge you to vote against the coal fired Highwood Generating station.

BOARD OF CHOUTEAU COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.


Harvey W. Worrall, Chairman


Kenneth R. Evans, Member


James O'Hara, Member